

REMARKS

In the Office Action that was mailed September 9, 2002, claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Blahut, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,570,126). Of the rejected claims, claims 1, 9 and 15 are independent; all other claims depend on one of the independent claims. By the foregoing amendment, the rejections are traversed and the claims are in condition for allowance.

Paraphrased, amended independent claims 1, 9 and 15 now claim that the output of a single video generator is capable of being selectively switched into a single overlay generator of a plurality of generators. The video from the video generator is not switched into more than one overlay generator.

Each overlay generator is capable of being coupled to a single display device such that the video from the video generator and overlay data from a single overlay generator into which the video is selectively switched, are both displayed on a display device.

The Applicant re-asserts the previously-made arguments for the allowability of the dependent claims, which in light of the foregoing amendments to the independent claims are in condition for allowance.

As best understood by the Applicant, the Examiner's rejections under §102(b) in the Office Action of September 9, 2002, is based on the Examiner's (erroneous) reading of Blahut that Blahut shows two video scalars 430, 432 coupled to two overlay generators. As understood by the Applicant, the Examiner finds a first overlay generator embodied as the text generator 414 in combination with video combiner 440; the Examiner finds a second overlay generator embodied by cursor generator 416 in combination with the video combiner 440. Thus, the video combiner 440 is only part of an overlay generator and not an overlay generator by itself.

The Examiner's reading of Blahut ignores what is clearly shown in FIG. 4 of Blahut: the outputs of the video scalars 430 and 432 are coupled into only the video combiner 440. Under the Examiner's construction, the outputs of the video scalars are coupled into only "part" of what he contends are overlay generators and not an overlay generator as claimed in the pending claims.

Paraphrased, claims 1, 9 and 15 claim a programmable switch, programmably switches video into one of first and second overlay generators, each of which are capable of being coupled

to output display devices. In Blahut, the video combiner 440 cannot selectively or programmably switch video signals into one of first and second overlay generators.

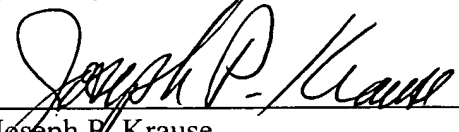
In addition, claims 1, 9 and 15 claim that the programmable switches enable the display of video and overlay on a single output display device. Blahut is devoid of any teaching that the single video stream can be sent to a single overlay generator for display on a single display device.

The "packet switch 120" taught in Blahut and identified in FIG. 1 by reference numeral 120 does not selectively route video signals into individual overlay generators that are capable of being coupled to individual display devices as claimed in the independent claims. The packet switch 120 broadcasts whatever signals are input to the packet switch 120. There is no video signal/overlay data performed downstream of the packet switch 120. See Blahut FIG. 1 and col. 3, lines 44 – 67.

For the reasons stated above, claims 1, 9 and 15 are all allowable over the prior art of record.

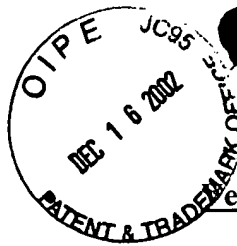
Each of the dependent claims are allowable by way of the foregoing amendments to the independent claims and for the additional reasons set forth in the Applicant's previous responses.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with Markings to Show Changes

IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A video overlay apparatus comprising:
 - a video scaler operatively responsive to input video data; and
 - a programmable switching mechanism, operatively coupled to the video scaler, to [selectively route] programmably switch video data from the video scaler [to] into one of [a plurality of] first and second video overlay generators that are each capable of being operably coupled to corresponding first and second display devices, in order to [facilitate selective display of] enable the display of said video data from said video scaler and overlay data from one of said first and second overlay generators on one of a first output display device and a second display device. [wherein each of the video overlay generators outputs overlay information.]

Please rewrite claim 9 as follows:

9. (Twice Amended) A video overlay apparatus comprising:
 - a video scaler operatively responsive to input video data;
 - a first display engine responsive to first graphics data for generating first video window timing data,
 - a second display engine responsive to second graphics data for generating second video window timing data,
 - a first video overlay generator operatively responsive to first graphics data;
 - a second video overlay generator operatively responsive to the second graphics data; and
 - a programmable [switching mechanism] switch, operatively coupled to the video scaler and to said first video overlay generator and said second video overlay generator, to [selectively route] programmably switch video data from the video scaler to one of: [a plurality of video overlay generators] said first video overlay generator and said second video overlay generator in order to [facilitate] enable the selective display of video data from said video scaler and overlay data on one of: a first display device and a second display device, wherein each of the video

overlay generators outputs overlay information for a corresponding display device and wherein the programmable switching mechanism includes a selectable video clock source operatively coupled to the video scaler wherein the video scaler scales input video corresponding to a display engine for at least one of the plurality of video overlay generators in response to a video clock signal output from the selectable video clock source.

Please rewrite claim 15 as follows:

15. (Twice Amended) A video overlay method comprising the steps of:

scaling input video through a common video scaler for delivery to one of a plurality of video overlay generators, each of said video overlay generators having an output for coupling video and video overly data into a corresponding display device; and

selectively [routing] switching video data from the common video scaler to one of the plurality of video overlay generators to facilitate selective display of overlay data and video on a display device coupled to an output of a video overlay generator such that [wherein] each of the video overlay generators outputs overlay information to a corresponding display device.